



**USAID** | **LEBANON**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# THE LEBANON MOUNTAIN TRAIL PROJECT

## FINAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Cooperative Agreement No. 268-A-00-06-00306-00



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BEIRUT, LEBANON



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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACS	Al Shouf Cedar Society
AGF	Abdallah Ghanem Foundation
ANERA	American Near East Refugee Association
ATC	Appalachian Trail Conservancy
BOQs	Bill of Quantities
CA	Cooperative Agreement
CIFA	Centre d'Insertion par la Formation et l'Activité
COTI	Colorado Outdoor Trail Initiative
LMT	Lebanon Mountain Trail
LMTA	Lebanon Mountain Trail Association
LTTA	Long-Term Technical Assistance
MOE	Ministry of Environment
MOT	Ministry of Tourism
RFP	Request for Proposals
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
STTA	Short-Term Technical Assistance
TDM	Trail Development and Maintenance
TIES	The International Ecotourism Society
USFS	US Forest Service

# 1. Introduction and Summary

## 1.1. Background

USAID/Lebanon awarded ECODIT, Inc. a Cooperative Agreement (CA) to implement the Lebanon Mountain Trail project. The CA originally had a period of performance of two years with an effective start date of December 12, 2005. The performance period was extended by three months following ECODIT's request for a no-cost extension (see box).

### No-Cost Extension

ECODIT submitted to USAID a request for a three-month no-cost extension of the CA. The request was approved on 8 November, 2007 and effectively extended the project performance period from December 12, 2007 through March 12, 2008. The no-cost extension was necessary to complete several activities that were delayed due to the summer war of 2006, and the prolonged unrest that followed. Part of the delay was also due to the fact that (1) the Cooperative Agreement was only partially funded at the outset (\$1.5 Million) and (2) the remaining funds (\$1.8 Million) were not obligated into the agreement until May 2007, 17 months after the project start.

## 1.2. Purpose of this Report

This Final Performance Report presents key the achievements and deliverables completed by ECODIT and its implementation partners under the Lebanon Mountain Trail project. For clarity, we have prepared this report consistent with the project's original scope and tasks as and described in ECODIT's original proposal to USAID dated June 30, 2005. That proposal had divided the LMT project into seven (7) project tasks:

1. Partnerships and Collaborative Planning
2. Trail Delineation and Development
3. Development of Non-Traditional Lodging Facilities
4. Enhancing and Reviving Rural Tourism Attractions
5. Co-Organizing annual/seasonal events
6. Training of hospitality providers and trail/culture guides
7. Promotion and Marketing of the Lebanon Mountain Trail

## 1.3. Summary of Key Results

ECODIT has wrapped up the Lebanon Mountain Trail project, exceeding by far our own expectations and the anticipated results from this project. Under the project, the LMT was delineated from Qbaiyat to Marjaayoun (440 km), test-walked and mapped; local guides were trained; Lebanon's tour operators were engaged and have started to organize regular trips on the LMT; 11 new guesthouses were established; two town squares were upgraded and resurfaced drawing significant praise from local communities as well as private donations to implement additional works; and new promotional material were produced. The number of visitors to the LMT website [www.lebanontrail.org](http://www.lebanontrail.org) is steadily increasing. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the LMT Association was registered and has started to fulfill its mandate to protect and promote the LMT to become a world-class tourism destination. Table 1 compares our project performance against proposed targets.

Table 1  
Project Performance Summary: Proposed versus Actual

Task and Activities	Actual Performance and Outputs
<b>Task 1 Collaborative Planning and Partnership Building</b>	
1.1 Organize Collaborative Planning Workshops	4 regional planning workshops conducted
1.2 Engage Nature Tour Operators	12 nature tour operators engaged
<b>Task 2 Lebanon Trail Development &amp; Renovation</b>	
2.1 Delineate and test-walk the LMT (250 km)	440 km delineated, test-walked and mapped
2.2 Train local volunteers on trail development	37 volunteers trained with USFS expertise
2.3 Upgrade trail sections (target = 100 km)	132 km cleared and marked with local partners
2.4 Document a selection of trail diversions	Half-a-dozen trail diversions documented
<b>Task 3 Development of Non-Traditional Lodging Facilities</b>	
3.1 Establish 10 guesthouses...	11 guesthouses established and equipped
3.2 Establish two eco-lodges...	Cancelled
3.3 Establish three campsites near the LMT	1 campsite established in Ain Dara
3.4 Establish three Rest Areas near the LMT	3 rest areas established (Jbaa picnic area, Ain an-Naassa in Horsh Ehdn and Barouk entrance to Al Shouf Cedars Reserve)
3.5 Provide training for hospitality providers	All guesthouse owners trained
<b>Task 4 Enhancing and Reviving Rural Tourism Attractions</b>	
4.1 Visitor Information Centers	Cancelled – replaced by more than 100 distribution points for LMT material
4.2 Mar Laba Town Square	Town square upgraded and resurfaced
4.3 Mtain Historic Town Square	Town square upgraded and resurfaced
4.4 Baatarah Pothole in Tannourine	Assessment of threats & opportunities conducted; interpretive panel designed & installed
4.5 Abdallah Ghanem Cultural Park	Park designed and built
4.6 Baskinta Literary Trail (BLT)	BLT researched, designed, tested and sign-posted
4.7 Mgharet Zahlan Cave in Sir el Dinnieh	Cancelled – not on the LMT
<b>Task 5 Organizing Annual &amp; Seasonal Events &amp; Festivals</b>	
Help organize a number of festivals	Participated in four rural festivals
<b>Task 6 Promotion and Marketing of the Lebanon Mountain Trail</b>	
6.1 Organize a thru-walk	4 regional thru-walks organized (63 participants)
6.2 Familiarization trips for tour operators	27 hikes organized (850 participants)
6.3 Design and develop the LMT website	<a href="http://www.lebanontrail.org">www.lebanontrail.org</a> designed and functional
6.4 Design and produce the LMT guidebook	A Guide to the LMT designed and printed
6.5 Promote the LMT internationally	LMT literature displayed and the trail promoted at 10 international functions and fairs
6.6 Produce other promotional materials	A wealth of material produced incl. the BLT brochure, 26 LMT brochures, 20 maps, etc.
<b>Task 7 Launching the LMT Association</b>	
Launch the LMT Federation	LMT Association registered; it has started to organize itself and assume basic responsibilities for protecting and promoting the trail



#### 1.4. Marking Requirements

Consistent with USAID regulation 22 CFR 226, ECODIT appropriately marked all aspects of the LMT Project as “American Aid”. In particular, we added the USAID logo and/or reference to the American People on all activities, public communications, and commodities; we used the USAID Standard Graphic Identity (USAID Identity, defined in 22 C.F.R. §226.2).

Below is a list of activities, construction works and public communications that have been duly marked as “American Aid”:

- PowerPoint presentations and handouts at all seminars, workshops, and training courses incl. four Collaborative Planning Workshops
- Acknowledgement panels:
  - inside 11 guesthouses (plexiglass)
  - at three (3) rest areas (aluminum and/or wood panel)
  - at Abdallah Ghanem Cultural Park (aluminum)
  - at the Mar Laba (Hasroun) and Mtain town square (aluminum)
- Public communications including LMT brochures, BLT brochure, LMT maps, LMT Guidebook and the LMT website.

#### Samples:

A Guide to the Lebanon Mountain Trail – First Edition 2008

“ECODIT conceived, designed and implemented the Lebanon Mountain Trail project with core funding provided by the American people through the US Agency for International Development”

Acknowledgement Panel at Mtain Town Square (2008)

“Mtain Historic Town Square:  
Upgraded with a donation from the American people and co-funding by the Municipality of Mtain & Mchikha under the Lebanon Mountain Trail Project (2008)”

For security considerations, the two vehicles acquired under the LMT project were not marked with the USAID logo.

#### 1.5. Commodities & Assets Acquired by the LMT Project

See list in Annex A.

## 2. LMT in the Media

The Lebanon Mountain Trail was prominently featured in local and international press, as well as TV and radio stations. Coverage has been in Arabic, English and French, with systematic reference to the contribution of the “American People and USAID.” See list of media houses and number of appearances in Table 2.

Table 2  
A Review of the Lebanon Mountain Trail in the Media

	Media House	Number of Appearances
Inside Lebanon	Addiyar Newspaper	1
	Aishti Magazine	1
	Al Akhbar Newspaper	6
	Al Anwar Newspaper	7
	Al Hasnaa Magazine	1
	Al Hayat Newspaper	1
	Al Liwaa Newspaper	9
	Al Nafiza Newspaper	1
	Al Sharek El Awsat Newspaper	1
	Al Sharek Newspaper	1
	Albalad Newspaper	4
	Almustaqbal Newspaper	17
	ANB Television	1
	Annahar Newspaper	18
	Assafir Newspaper	6
	ATCL (Automobile et Touring Club du Liban)	1
	Attamadon Newspaper	1
	AUST Midweek Newspaper	2
	Baldati Magazine (North Lebanon)	1
	Environment and Development Magazine	3
	Femme Magazine	1
	Heya TV	2
	Katawat Newspaper	1
	LBC Television	1
	Lebanon TV	1
	L'Orient le Jour Newspaper	4
	Lubnan El Hur Radio	3
Masculin Magazine	1	
Mondanite Magazine	1	
Sawt El Maten Magazine	1	
The Daily Star Newspaper	4	
Outside Lebanon	Digital Travel Newspaper	1
	eTurboNews (eTN)	1
	TV Orbit	3
	TV France24	1
	UK Geographical Magazine	1
	AT Journeys Magazine	1
	Reuters	1
	Times Online	1
	Wildlife Middle East	1
	World Environment Magazine	1
	Total	115 appearances

### 3. LMT Tasks and Achievements

#### 3.1. Task 1 – Collaborative Planning and Partnership Building

##### Collaborative Planning Workshops

Consistent with our proposal and first annual work plan, ECODIT organized four regional collaborative workshops to present and discuss the LMT project design with trailside communities and local stakeholders – see summary in Table 3.

Table 3  
Summary of Collaborative Planning Workshops

Region	Location	Date (2007)	Participants
North Mount Lebanon	La Réserve in Afqa	Jul 1	57
South Mount Lebanon	Auberge Saint Michel Maaser el Chouf	Jul 8	92
North	Qasr el Oumara in Sir el Dinnieh	Sep 16	60
South	Agricultural Extension Center in Khirbet Kanafar	Dec 9	71

The workshop objectives were to:

- Present and discuss the LMT project in its entirety
- Develop a sense of community and ownership to support the project in the long-term
- Solicit suggestions from local communities about the trail and its interventions

##### Nature Tour Operators

We engaged Lebanon’s nature tour operators (NGOs and micro-enterprises) in the design and the implementation of the LMT project – see list in Table 4. This approach helped secure local buy-in and trail marketability.

Table 4  
Lebanese Nature Tour Operators Engaged in the LMT Project

Organization	Tel #	Website
Baldati*	04 922 999	<a href="http://www.baldati.com">www.baldati.com</a>
Biladi - History and Nature	04 407 357	
Blue Carrot Adventure Club	09 852 030	<a href="http://www.blue-carrot.com">www.blue-carrot.com</a>
Club des Vieux Sentiers*	01 203 988	<a href="http://www.cvslebanon.org">www.cvslebanon.org</a>
Cyclamen / TLB	04 419 848	<a href="http://www.tlb-destinations.com">www.tlb-destinations.com</a>
Esprit Nomade	70 813 001	<a href="http://www.esprit-nomade.com">www.esprit-nomade.com</a>
Exit to Nature	03 648 556	<a href="http://www.exittonature.com">www.exittonature.com</a>
Ibex Ecotourism	01 216 299	<a href="http://www.1stlebanon.net/lebanon/ibex.html">www.1stlebanon.net/lebanon/ibex.html</a>
Lebanese Adventure	03 360 027	<a href="http://www.lebanese-adventure.com">www.lebanese-adventure.com</a>
Lebanon Roots	09 638 128	<a href="http://www.lebanonroots.com">www.lebanonroots.com</a>
Liban Trek	01 329 975	<a href="http://www.libantrek.com">www.libantrek.com</a>
Responsible Mobilities	03 218 048	

\* Non-Governmental Organizations; the other organizations listed are for-profit companies

### 3.2. Task 2 – Lebanon Trail Development and Renovation

#### Delineate and Test-Walk the LMT

Using the services of professional hikers, nature tour operators, municipal employees, scout organizations and other volunteers, ECODIT delineated and test-walked the LMT from Obaiyat (Akkar) to Marjaayoun (South Lebanon) – a total distance of 440 km. The trail was test-walked by dozens of groups who provided feedback on the preliminary path and suggestions for improvement. ECODIT delineated and mapped the whole trail using GPS. For convenience and marketability, we have divided the trail into 26 day-long sections each between 10 and 24 km long. Hikers may walk the whole trail or any section they please.

**LMT on Google Earth**  
Our team also prepared a virtual tour of the LMT, from North to South, using GoogleEarth. The virtual tour shows the trail from various altitudes and angles. It can be displayed on any computer as a movie clip.

#### Train Local Volunteers on Trail Development and Maintenance

In the spirit of building local capacity for trail maintenance, ECODIT and USFS organized a four-day training course on “Trail Development and Maintenance” on 15-19 November at the Mediterranean Forest Development Center in Ramlieh. A total of 37 participants received theoretical and practical training on how to design, develop and maintain trail and trail systems. The USFS team consisted of:

1. Lyle Laverty (Director, Colorado State Parks)
2. Kim Frederick (Trails Supervisor, Colorado, Outdoor Training Initiative, COTI)
3. Melissa Othman (International Programs, USDA Forest Service)
4. Christopher Soriano (International Programs, US Forest Service)

#### Assist Local Partners in Upgrading Individual Trail Sections

Building on the recommendation of senior members of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy during their visit to Lebanon in 2006, ECODIT decided to concentrate trail work on demonstration sections. Rather than completing the whole trail partially, the decision was to finalize a selection of sections fully, to inspire and guide replication by local communities. ECODIT’s original proposal to USAID stated that we would clear and upgrade 100 km of the trail. Thanks to the enthusiasm of local partners, ECODIT was able to clear and upgrade 132 km of demonstration sections:

Region	Section	App. Length (km)
North	5. Bqaa Sefrine - Ehden	22.9
	8. Bcharre – Hasroun	9.8
Northern ML	11. Aqoura – Afqa	16.9
	14. Kfar Eqab – Baskinta	19.8
Southern ML	19. Barouk – Maaser	10.6
	20. Maaser – Niha	12.3
South	22. Jezzine to Aitanit	16.0
	25. Rachaiya – Hasbaya	24.5
Total Length (km)		132.8

ECODIT also organized two training workshops targeting 53 candidate local guides on the Lebanon Mountain Trail:

Dates	Location	Regions Covered	Number of Participants
July 6, 7 & 8	Ramlieh (AFDC)	Southern ML and the South	24
July 27, 28 & 29	Afqa (La Réserve)	North and Northern ML	29

We selected our trainees carefully from all the villages along the trail. Our trainers were:

1. Gilbert Moukheiber (LMT project team) – on safety
2. Serge Soued (consultant) – on how to plan a group hike
3. Andre Beshara (consultant) – on how to enrich the experience of hikers
4. Pascal Abdallah (consultant) – on how to manage hiker expectations and interpret the trail
5. Housam Shaiban (consultant) – gave an overview of plants on the LMT

#### Document a Selection of Potential Trail Diversions

ECODIT documented a number of trail diversions (a.k.a. side trails) some of which are diversions that lead back to the LMT. Examples (listed from north to south):

1. Hadchit to Bazaoun (near LMT section 7)
2. Aqoura to Afqa (part of LMT section 11)
3. Mristi to Baadaran to Jbaa (part of LMT section 20)
4. Ain-Hircha to Chebaa and Abou Qamha (near LMT sections 25 and 26)

### 3.3. Task 3 – Development of Non-Traditional Lodging Facilities

#### Establish Eco-Lodges near the LMT

Our original proposal included one or two eco-lodges but did not identify the locations or partners. During the collaborative planning process (see Task 1), ECODIT learned that other organizations were already engaged in setting up eco-lodges near the LMT, including one eco-lodge in Ammiq financed by the Swiss Development Agency (SDA) and implemented by Jordanian Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN). Consequently, and as explained in Progress Report Qtr2/2006, we decided to abandon the eco-lodge and reallocate that money to other facilities including guesthouses and town squares.

#### Establish Campsites near the LMT

ECODIT established one campsite in Jbaa (adjacent to the LMT) on land owned by the Municipality of Jbaa. The request came from the Municipality who provided resources and funds to implement the project (i.e., terracing, landscaping). The picnic area was completed and inaugurated on 25 January, 2007 and has been a stunning success drawing hundreds of visitors during weekends. The municipality continues to maintain and upkeep the picnic area (watering plants, emptying trash cans, cleaning the barbecue area, etc.). See photos in Annex B.

### Establish Guesthouses in Trailside Communities

Using preset selection criteria pertaining to the house and the tenants, ECODIT selected and upgraded/refurbished 11 guesthouses on the LMT. All renovation designs were prepared by our senior architect on the LMT project team; upgrade works were tendered based on USAID rules and regulations. Renovation works included any of the following items: kitchen, bathrooms, bedrooms, solar heater and septic tank. Guesthouse capacity varies from four to 12 people; guesthouses can accommodate additional people if needed. All 11 guesthouses launched a 90-day free trial period at the end of upgrade works, duly advertised by ECODIT and nature tour operators.

Table 5  
Guesthouses Refurbished by the LMT Project

Village	Contact Name	Capacity	Value of Equipment and Construction Works*	Mobile #
Qbaiyat	Bernadette Iskandar	6	\$5,600	03 318 937
Qmamine	Hussein Abou Draa	6	\$24,170	03 817 312
Tannourine	Georges Sarkis Harb	4	\$21,279	03 679 055
Aaqoura	Hassan and Yola El-Hashem	6	\$28,500	03 183 541
Baskinta	Michelle El Khoury Hanna	6	\$29,551	03 380 058
Mtein	Faisal, Naghiba and Layla El-Qontar	6	\$32,450	03 236 062
Barouk	Ziad and Mirna El-Boustani	6	\$37,956	03 633 062
Baadarane	Nazih Baz	6	\$12,977	03 702 944
Niha	Shafik and Samia Mershad	8	\$19,849	05 330 348/9
Rachaya	Kamal El-Sahli	5	\$12,390	03 615 702
Hasbaya	Ghada Harfoushe (SOIL Association)	12	\$23,141	70 960 818
Total		71	\$247,863	

\* Excluding cost-share

– see photos in Annex B.

### Establish Rest Areas near the LMT

ECODIT upgraded the Ain an-Naassa spring (Horsh Ehden Nature Reserve) and the Barouk entrance (Al Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve) – both located on the trail – to serve as rest areas for visitors and hikers. Works were implemented in partnership with the Horsh Ehden Reserve Committee and the Al Shouf Cedar Society (ACS), respectively. Additionally, the LMT project helped finance two toilet facilities; one at the Barouk entrance and one at the Niha entrance to the Shouf Reserve. See photos in Annex B.

### Provide training for hospitality providers

Working with ANERA's DHIAFEE program, ECODIT helped design and conduct a training program for all guesthouse owners on the LMT. The program consisted of several modules including early orientation, theoretical training, and on-the-job training (i.e., in every guesthouse). The modules were delivered by experts from Lebanon who covered the following subjects:

- Introduction to tourism and hospitality business
- Personal skills and resources
- Lodging design, physical resources and facilities management
- Menu development, food safety and sanitation
- Customer service concept and communication
- Marketing and promotion
- Costing, pricing and basic accounting

On June 5, 2008 (World Environment Day), all the trainees received a format Training Certificate issued jointly by ANERA, AL Kafaat and ECODIT.

### 3.4. Task 4 – Enhancing and Reviving Rural Tourism Attractions

#### Visitor Information Centers

ECODIT did not build new Visitor Information Centers (VICs). During the collaborative planning workshops, participants suggested that we use existing facilities, including municipalities, hotels and kiosks to serve as information centers/booths for LMT visitors. It was decided to re-examine the feasibility of setting up VICs in the future when the LMT becomes well-known and visitor traffic increases. At the end of the LMT project, ECODIT identified more than 100 distribution points in trailside communities for disseminating LMT materials and information. See complete list in Appendix A. All these locations have received LMT brochures for distribution to the public (read more about LMT promotion in Task 6).

#### Mar Laba Historic Town Square

Working with the School of Architecture at the University of the Holy Spirit Kaslik (FBA-USEK), ECODIT and the Municipality of Hasroun prepared detailed designs for upgrading and resurfacing the Mar Laba town square in Hasroun, on the LMT. The square is located near the Quadisha World Heritage Site and is bordered by the marvelous 400-year old church of Mar Laba. On September 13, 2007, ECODIT invited 10 general construction contractors to bid on the project and received five bids:

1. ARAR SARL
2. I'MAR
3. Combat SARL
4. A. Hamdan
5. SANABEL SARL

Following USAID rules, the construction contract went to ARAR SARL. Works commenced on October 15, 2007 and were completed in January 2008 to the full satisfaction of ECODIT and the Client – see photos in Annex B.

#### Mtain Historic Town Square

Also working with USEK-FBA, ECODIT prepared detailed designs for upgrading the historic town square in Mtain (a.k.a. the square of the emirs). Following a town meeting organized by the Municipality of Mtein & Mchikha (the Client) on August 2, 2007 (attended by 75 local residents) to present and discuss the proposed upgrade works, and subsequent modifications, ECODIT invited on September 26, 2007, eight (8) general construction contractors to submit their bids to implement works. ECODIT received five bids:

1. SANABEL
2. A.R.A.R.
3. Shady Abou Mosleh
4. Combat
5. M.A. Contracting

The construction contract went to Chadi Abou Mosleh. Works commenced in December 2007 and were completed to the full satisfaction of ECODIT and the Client on May 15, 2008 – see photos in Annex B.

#### Baatarah Pothole in Tannourine

The Baabtarah Pothole, located in Tannourine on the LMT, is one of Lebanon's most remarkable geologic formations. ECODIT's original proposal had examined the possibility of installing safety equipment near the Baatarah Pothole and equipping the site with a Tyrolienne or other climbing facilities to cater for sports enthusiasts. Following extensive consultations with the Municipality of Tannourine, the Ministry of Environment, the landlord (Mr. Fadi Chaar) as well as several caving clubs, the consensus was not to install any equipment as that would potentially degrade the landscape. However, ECODIT funded a geological and tourism survey of the site (conducted by a well-respected hydro-geologist) to inform all parties of the opportunities and threats pertaining to site development. ECODIT also designed and installed an interpretive panel (English and Arabic) to inform visitors about the site and why it is unique.

#### Abdallah Ghanem Cultural Park

The late Abdallah Ghanem was a prominent Lebanese writer and poet from Baskinta. Working with the Abdallah Ghanem Foundation (AGF), ECODIT designed a cultural park adjacent to the Abdallah Ghanem Cultural Center in Baskinta. The objective of this initiative was to build an open-air facility that would receive visitors of the Baskinta Literary Trail (see Task 4 for more information on the BLT) and host cultural festivals including poetry recitals. Following a design competition organized and launched by ECODIT in 2006, we then invited on July 20, 2007, 11 general construction contractors to bid on the project. ECODIT received five bids:

1. Gala Group
2. Mounir Abou Izzeh Establishment (M.A. Est.)
3. TLTC
4. SANABEL s.a.r.l.
5. Jean Srouji Establishment

Only three bids passed the minimum technical score of 70 points (marked in bold) and the construction contract went to SANABEL s.a.r.l. Works commenced in August 2007 and were completed in January 2008. Subsequent settlement caused some cracks to appear on the lower amphitheatre, which were repaired pursuant to the recommendations of a structural engineer hired by ECODIT to assess the structural integrity of the site.

#### Baskinta Literary Trail (BLT)

The Baskinta Literary Trail (BLT) was an integral part of ECODIT's proposal to USAID. ECODIT conceived and developed the BLT in consultation with the Municipality of Baskinta, the Ministry of Tourism, the Abdallah Ghanem Foundation, CIFA, and Mymouné



(cottage products) as well as Pascal Abdallah, Nadim Naimy, George Aroyan, George Abi Rached, George Hobeika and Carlos Hobeika and the families of all the writers and poets who crafted the literary traditions of Baskinta and the surrounding villages.

In October 2007, and following meticulous site investigation and research, ECODIT invited eight (8) companies to submit bids for sign-posting the BLT and received two bids:

1. MORES sarl
2. ViaLiban (Europtima)

The contract went to ViaLiban who designed and manufactured 22 interpretive panels; 6 information panels; and 45 directional signs. The signs were installed in May 2008 after ECODIT obtained relevant approvals from local residents, municipalities, and the kaemakam. The signs, built in wood and galvanized steel, have an expected life span of 6-8 years (see photos).



Photos: BLT sign-posting in Baskinta



### Mgharet el Zahlan Cave in Sir el Dinnieh

ECODIT did not implement any works in Mgharet el Zahlan because the site (1) has been damaged by reckless shooting / graffiti and; (2) is located far from the LMT.

### 3.5. Task 5 – Organizing Annual / Seasonal Events and Festivals

ECODIT helped organize and/or revive a number of festivals and other functions on the LMT including:

Festival (Location)	Partners	Turnout
Kebbeh Festival (Ehden) 19 August 2007	Souk el Tayeb	2,000
Jabalna Food Festival (Maasser el Shouf) 2 September 2007	Souk el Tayeb / Al Shouf Cedar Reserve	4,000
Khraibeh Food Festival (Khraibeh) 23 September 2007	Municipality of Khreibeh	200
Walk for Your Health (Maasser el Shouf) 29 June 2008	WHO / LMT Association	Postponed

### 3.6. Task 6 – Promotion and Marketing of the Lebanon Mountain Trail

The LMT project has generated a substantial variety of promotional materials including website, brochure, maps and guidebook. Additionally, ECODIT organized the first thru-walk of the LMT and invited Lebanon’s nature tour operators to organize dozens of familiarization trips.

#### Thru-Walk

ECODIT planned, organized and completed the first through-walk of the LMT in four parts (see summary in Table 6). In total, 63 people participated in those walks including professional hikers, LMT Association members, local guides, journalists, ECODIT staff and representatives from NGOs and Tour Operators.

Table 6  
Overview of Regional Thru-Walks (As-Executed)

Region	Team
April 20 - April 30* North Lebanon Qbaiyat to Tannourine (9 sections) Total distance: ca. 140 km	Team Leader: Chadi Ghajar (ECODIT)  Core Team: Ramiz Dallli, Gilbert Moukheiber, Chadi Ghajar, Nizar Hani, Karim El-Jisr, Liselotte Sulukdjian, Joe Rahme, Christian Akhras, Paul Khawaja, Serge Soued, Christine Daher, George Zghaib
May 4 – May 13* N. Mt. Lebanon Tannourine to Falougha (6 sections) Total distance: ca. 117 km	Team Leader: Gilbert Moukheiber (ECODIT)  Core Team: Chadi Ghajar, Soraya Moukarzel, Nick Haslam, George Abi Rached, Issam Diab, Serge Soued, Rafic Saliba, Joseph Karam
May 18 - May 24 S. Mt. Lebanon Falougha to Niha (5 sections) Total distance: ca. 63 km	Team Leader: Nizar Hani (ECODIT)  Core Team: Ramez Dallli, Sevag Fernezian, Marwan Khodr, Hanna El Murr, Wissam Abu Daher, Carol Fghali
South Lebanon June 1 - June 7 Niha to Marjaayoun (4 sections) Total distance: ca. 94 km	Team Leader: Ramiz Dallli (ECODIT)  Core Team: Nizar Hani, Michelle Bachir, Ziad Samaha, Youssef Rashed, Carlos Hobeika, Georges Hobeika, Liselotte Sulukdjian, Ghada Harfoush, Vasken Sulukdjian

\* Including one rest day

#### Familiarization Trips for Tour operators

To enhance the private sector interest of the trail, ECODIT engaged Lebanon’s tour operators and helped them organize their own tours on the trail using local guides trained by ECODIT and guesthouses refurbished by the LMT project. During the period September 1 through December 31, these operators (including NGOs) organized a total of 27 hikes on the LMT involving almost 800 people (see list in Table 7).

Table 7  
Familiarization Trips Organized by Tour Operators during Qtr3 2007

Tour Operator	Villages	Date	Participants
Responsible Mobilities	Weekend in Hasbaya	September 15 &16	30
Cyclamen	Baskinta Literary Trail	September 16	24
Vamos Todos	Baskinta Night Hike	September 28	31
Baldati	Mristi - Baadaran	September 30	39
Cyclamen	Aytanit - Kawkaba Bou Arab	September 30	14
Baldati	Plateau Niha - Nabi Ayoub	October 4	47
Cyclamen	Ehden	October 7	16
Lebanon Roots	Tannourine - Aqoura	October 13	19
Vamos Todos	Weekend at Arz Bcharee	October 13	35
Baldati	Arz - Hasroun	October 14	20
Esprit Nomade	Zaarour - Mtein	October 14	40
Responsible Mobilities, ACS, DHIAFEE	Weekend in the Shouf Mountains	October 6 &7	19
Baldati	Wadi Qannoubine	October 18	46
Lebanon Roots	Kfar Aqab - Badskinta	October 21	42
Baldati	Barouk - Maasser el Shouf	October 27	29
Vamos Todos	Niha - Jezzine	October 28	42
Vamos Todos	Afqa	October 30	47
Vamos Todos	Aitanit - Kawkaba Bou Arab	November 18	35
Responsible Mobilities	Hasroun - Hadath el Jebbe	November 18	28
Esprit Nomade	Aqoura - Laqlouq	November 19	15
Esprit Nomade	Qadisha - Qannoubine Valley	November 25	23
Esprit Nomade	Baskinta Literary Trail	December 2	18
Cyclamen	Tannourine - Aqoura	December 9	42
Cyclamen	Qadisha Valley	December 16	12
Lebanon Roots	Mtain - Falougha	December 22	45

Total 758

#### Design and develop the LMT website

Using the services of PommeS (layout & artwork) and Mr. Nidal Ghorayeb, the e-tourism specialist on the LMT project team, ECODIT developed a dedicated website for the LMT ([www.lebanontrail.org](http://www.lebanontrail.org)). The website has two fixed menu bars:

<u>Horizontal (five tabs):</u>	<u>Vertical menu (8 tabs):</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home</li> <li>• About Us</li> <li>• News and Events</li> <li>• Contact Us</li> <li>• Register</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About the LMT</li> <li>• Hike the LMT</li> <li>• LMT Association</li> <li>• LMT Products (e-shopping)</li> <li>• Publications &amp; Press</li> <li>• FAQ</li> <li>• Useful Links</li> <li>• Literary Corner</li> </ul>

...and contains:

- Selection of village profiles,
- Directory of plants on the LMT,
- Extensive photo gallery,
- Directory of village attractions,
- Directory of lodging facilities on the LMT,
- List of local guides,
- Selection of LMT articles (English, Arabic and French),
- Suggested readings
- Online weather,
- Google search engine,
- Acknowledgments,
- Disclaimer and Sitemap.

In the period from January 1 to May 30, 2008, almost 13,000 people visited the website.

#### Design and produce the LMT Guidebook

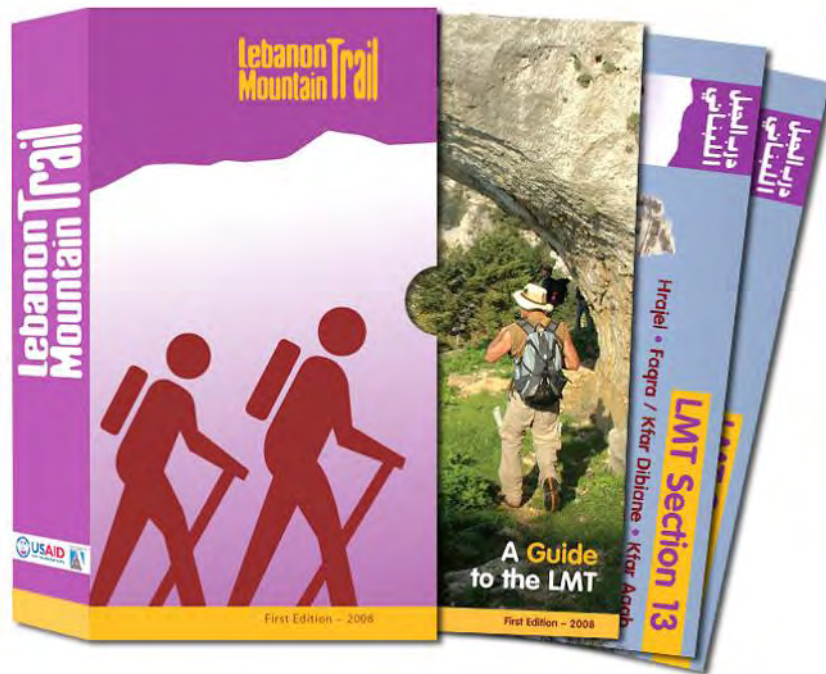
ECODIT designed and produced a Guide to the Lebanon Mountain Trail (1<sup>st</sup> Edition). This 112-page pocket-size guidebook provides substantial information about the trail, the attractions, and the services offered in trailside communities from Qbaiyat to Marjaayoun. All the information contained in the Guidebook is based on original research conducted by the LMT team. Much of this information cannot be found anywhere else. The guidebook is divided into three parts:

Part I: Getting Started  
Overview of Lebanon – Land of the Cedars  
The LMT – Gateway to Lebanon's Mountains  
Hiking Essentials

Part II: Walking the Trail  
LMT Map and Legend  
A Quick Technical Guide to the LMT  
26 Trail Sections  
History, Archaeology and Nature  
Plants of Lebanon's Highlands and Valleys  
Overview on Birds in Lebanon

Part III: Useful Information  
Lodging along the Way  
Useful Numbers  
Arabic for Travelers  
Recommended Readings

The guidebook was printed in 8,000 copies and launched as part of a high-visibility Press Conference at Al Kafaat Foundation in Ain Saadeh on March 28, 2008. Revenues from the sale of the guidebook will go to the LMT Association to help finance trail-related work (see photo of Guidebook in Special Edition box below).



Promote the LMT Internationally

ECODIT participated in the following local and international fairs & festivals:

Table 8  
List of Travel and Tourism Fairs and Festivals with LMT Participation

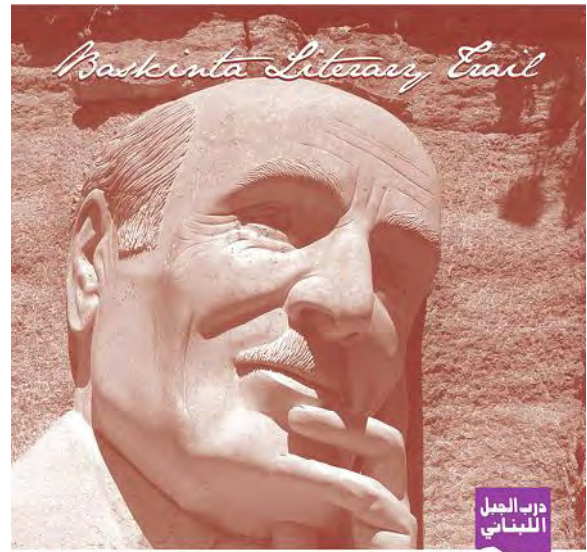
Fairs and Festivals	Date
Celebration of Ecotourism & Eco-Holiday Auction, Washington, DC	April 21, 2006
Educational Travel Conference, Baltimore	February 20 - 22, 2007
HORECA 2007, Lebanon	March 27 - 31, 2007
Global Ecotourism Conference, Oslo	May 14 - 16, 2007
Garden Show and Spring Festival, Lebanon	May 15 - 21, 2007
Marathon Village, Lebanon	November 22 - 25, 2007
Jabalna Food Festival, Lebanon	September 2, 2007
Society for International Development / Washington, DC Chapter 2008: - Annual Conference - Annual Career Fair	March 5, 2008 May 7, 2008
Garden Show & Spring Festival, Lebanon	June 10 - 14, 2008

Produce other communication materials

ECODIT produced a number of other promotional materials including a 10-mn documentary, a self-run PowerPoint Presentation about the trail, and several brochures and maps listed in Table 9 below.

**Table 9**  
**LMT Promotional Materials Produced by ECODIT**

Description	Title	Language	Quantity
<b>Leaflet</b>			
General Leaflet 1	Lebanon Mountain Trail / ??????? ?????	English and Arabic	5,000
General Leaflet 2	The Lebanon Mountain Trail - Celebrating a Shared Heritage	English	5,000
General Leaflet 2	(????? ???? ) ?????? ?????? - ??????? ?????	Arabic	3,000
General Leaflet 2	Le Sentier de la Montagne Libanaise - A la découverte d'un patrimoine riche et varié	French	2,500
General Leaflet 2	(????? ??) ?????? ?????? - ??????? ?????	Arabic	5,000
General Leaflet 2	The Lebanon Mountain Trail - Bringing us closer together	English	10,000
Leaflet	Baskinta Literary Trail - Take your Mind on a Fascinating Journey / ??????? ???? ?? ????? ???- ????? ??????? ??	English and Arabic	4,000
<b>Sectional Brochures</b>			
LMT Section 1	Qbaiyat - Akkar el Atiq - Tashea	English	6,000
LMT Section 2	Tashea - Fnaydeq - Michmich - Qemmamine	English	6,000
LMT Section 3	Qemmamine - Kfar Bnine	English	6,000
LMT Section 4	Kfar Bnine - Sfire - Qorsaita - Bqaa Sefrine - Sir Ed Danniye	English	6,000
LMT Section 5	Sir el Danniye - Bqaa Sefrine - Karm el Mohr - Ehden	English	6,000
LMT Section 6	Ehden - Aintourine - Arbet Qozhaiya - Wadi Qannoubine	English	6,000
LMT Section 7	Wadi Qannoubine - Hadchit - Bcharree	English	6,000
LMT Section 8	Bcharee - Bqaa Kafra - Bqerqach - Bazaoun - Hasroun	English	6,000
LMT Section 9	Hasroun - Dimane - Breissat - Hadath el Jebbe - Tannourine	English	6,000
LMT Section 10	Tannourine el Fawqa - Aqoura	English	6,000
LMT Section 11	Aqoura - Afqa	English	6,000
LMT Section 12	Afqa - Lassa - Qahmez - Hrajel	English	6,000
LMT Section 13	Hrajel - Faqra / Kfar Dibiane - Kfar Aqab	English	6,000
LMT Section 14	Kfar Aqab - Machraa - Ain el Qabu - Baskinta	English	6,000
LMT Section 15	Baskinta - Zaarour - Mtain	English	6,000
LMT Section 16	Mtain - Bzebdine - Qornayel - Falougha	English	6,000
LMT Section 17	Falougha - Ain Dara - Bmahray - Ain Zhalta / Nabeh Safa	English	6,000
LMT Section 18	Ain Zhalta / nabeh Safa - Barouk / Fraidis	English	6,000
LMT Section 19	Barouk / Fraidis - Maasser el Shouf	English	6,000
LMT Section 20	Maasser el Shouf - Mristi - Baadarane - Jbaa el Shouf - Niha	English	6,000
LMT Section 21	Niha - Jezzine	English	6,000
LMT Section 22	Jezzine - Aitanit	English	6,000
LMT Section 23	Aitanit - Kawkaba Bou Arab	English	6,000
LMT Section 24	Kawkaba Bou Arab - Aqabet - Rachaiya	English	6,000
LMT Section 25	Rachaiya - Ain Ata - Khalwet el Kfair - Ain Qinia - Hasbaiya	English	6,000
LMT Section 26	Hasbaiya - Abou Qamha - Ibl es Saqi - Dibbine - Marjaayoun	English	6,000
<b>LMT Maps</b>			
Section 1 - Section 2 - Section 3 - Section 4 - Section 5 - Section 6 & 7 - Section 8 - Section 9 - Section 10 - Section 11 & 12 - Section 13, 14 & 15 - Section 16 - Section 17 - Section 18 - Section 19 - Section 20 - Section 21 & 22 - Section 23 & 24 - Section 25 - Section 26		English	1,000 of each map



رحلة مشوقة  
في الأدب والحيات

Take your Mind  
on a Fascinating Journey



خارطة لمعالم ثقافية وأدبية في بسكنتا والجوار

An Itinerary to 22 Landmarks

Front and back of Baskinta Literary Trail brochure (actual size is 15cm x 21cm)



ECODIT conceived, designed and implemented the Lebanon Mountain Trail project with core funding provided by the American people through the US Agency for International Development (USAID). © 2008



ECODIT conceived, designed and implemented the Lebanon Mountain Trail project with core funding provided by the American people through the US Agency for International Development (USAID). © 2008



LMT Maps for Hikers (actual size 21cm x 12cm)



LMT General Brochure (English)



LMT General Brochure (Arabic)



LMT General Brochure (French)





LMT Sectional Brochure # 1 (actual size is 20cm x 10cm)



LMT Sectional Brochure # 26 (actual size is 20cm x 10cm)

Other promotional materials

ECODIT also printed 1,200 navy-blue T-shirts with the LMT, USAID and ECODIT logos (available in XS, S, M, L and XL sizes), 2,000 pins and 1,000 caps.

### 3.7. Task 7 – Launching the LMT Association

With technical and legal/policy support from ECODIT, 11 founding members drafted and signed the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the LMT Association on March 15, 2007. ECODIT submitted those documents to the Ministry of Interior on April 11, 2007 (registration no. 8887/2007) and received official notice of registration (a.k.a. ilm wa khabar) on November 1, 2007 under NGO no. 234/a.d.

The founding members are:

Michel Moufarege	Member – President
Raghida Haddad	Member – Vice President
Tarek El-Halabi	Member - Treasurer
Assad Najem	Member – Secretary
Fouad Charara	Member – Accountant
Aref Kodeih	Member
Chaker Noon	Member
Ghassan Jaradi	Member
Nada Zaarour	Member
Pascal Abdallah	Member
Serge Yazigi	Member

ECODIT then helped the newly-established Association with the following:

1. Open a bank account (Bank Audi, Account no. 901267)
2. Setup e-payment services on the LMT website for online purchases
3. Solicit membership applications from interested individuals (see membership card)
4. Prepare a realistic action plan for 2008



LMT Association Membership Card (actual size is 8.5cm x 5.5cm)

## 4. LMT Implementation Partners

### 4.1. Consultants

The LMT project required skills and know-how in a variety of disciplines from biodiversity to archaeology and information technology. During the course of the project, ECODIT hired the services of 27 short-term consultants with a total Level of Effort of about 300 days. These short-term consultants provided the following services to the project:

Prepare a first/preliminary delineation of the LMT
Facilitate regional collaborative planning workshops
Review the first delineation of the LMT
Review the first delineation of the LMT
Define and design LMT access points
Prepare technical specifications for LMT website
Assess threats and opportunities for visitor management to Baatara Pothole in Tannourine
Prepare sketches of BLT landmarks
Assess biodiversity on the LMT and prepare plant lists
Identify Lebanese poets and writers on the LMT
Review Tender Documents for guesthouses renovation works
Describe/catalogue historical monuments and archeological sites on the LMT (for the Guidebook)
Take GPS reading during the second regional thru-walk
Take GPS reading during the third regional thru-walk
Review and edit the LMT Guidebook and Sectional Brochures
Help design and deliver training course for local guides
Help design and deliver training course for local guides
Help design and deliver training course for local guides
Design, develop and test a self-run LMT presentation
Coordinate guesthouse training program with ANERA and BLT sign-posting plan with ViaLiban
Troubleshoot the LMT website; add e-shopping services
Assist in organizing hospitality training program
Design and deliver hospitality training course (with ANERA) including follow-up test visits

## 4.2. Resources Groups and Subcontractors

ECODIT engaged a number of resource groups and contractors to provide technical assistance to the project and its beneficiaries (see Table 10 and 11).

Table 10  
Memoranda of Agreement Signed by ECODIT in support of the LMT Project

Resource Group (TA)	Scope of Work (abbreviated)
The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC)	Providing technical advice on trail development and advice in relation to the LMT Association
Club des Vieux Sentiers (CVS)	Review the first delineation of the LMT and provide suggestions for improvement
University Holy Spirit Kaslik (USEK)	Provide detailed designs for the upgrade and restoring two historic town squares (Mar Laba in Hasroun and the Square of the Emirs in Mtain)
Friends of the Cedars of Bcharre	Build a new trail section (connector) from the Museum of Khalil Gebran to the plateau
US Forest Service (USFS)	Assist ECODIT in conducting a training course on trail development and maintenance
ANERA (Dhiafee Program)	Design and deliver a training program for hospitality providers including all guesthouses refurbished by the LMT project
Friends of Horsh Ehdén (FOHE)	Establish a rest area inside Horsh Ehdén Nature Reserve (Ain an-Naassa)
Al Shouf Cedar Society (ACS)	Coordinate activities in and around the Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve; establish two additional guesthouses (Maasser and Khraibeh); upgrade toilet facilities in Barouk and Niha entrances

Table 11  
Subcontractors Hired by ECODIT

Contractor (TA)	Scope of Work (abbreviated)
The International Ecotourism Society (TIES)	Identify international travel journalists; options of international promotion incl. fairs & exhibitions
ECODIT Liban	Project start-up; First Annual Work Plan; and Strategic Environment Assessment
Coverdale Organization	Team Building Workshop
ECODIT Liban	Deputy Chief of Party (part-time)
CIFA	Provide research support and design options for Baskinta Literary Trail (BLT); sign-posting plan
Nohra Abi Rizk	Design Abdallah Ghanem Cultural park in Baskinta; construction supervision
GIS Transport	GPS training and LMT mapping
PommeS	Design all LMT promotional materials incl. brochures, website, guidebook, posters and maps
IMECC sarl	Schtroumpf LMT design competition with Lebanese Universities

### 4.3. Construction Contractors

ECODIT hired a number of general construction contractors to implement a total of 17 small-scale construction activities on the LMT; the federal contribution to each project ranged from about \$12,000 to \$130,000. The projects are listed below and photos are provided in Annex B.

- Remodel and refurbish 11 guesthouses (listed from North to South):
  1. Qbaiyat
  2. Qemmamine
  3. Tannourine
  4. Aqoura
  5. Baskinta
  6. Mtain
  7. Barouk
  8. Baadaran
  9. Niha
  10. Hasbaiya
  11. Rachaiya
  
- Develop the Ain an-Naassa rest area in Horsh Ehden Nature Reserve
- Build a campsite in Ain Dara
- Build a picnic area in Jbaa
- Build the Abdallah Ghanem Cultural Park in Baskinta
- Upgrade and resurface the Mar Laba town square in Hasroun
- Upgrade and resurface the historic town square in Mtain
- Improve the Barouk and Ain Zhalta entrances to the Shouf Cedars Nature Reserve
- Signpost the Baskinta Literary Trail

## 5. Difficulties and Sustainability Measures

### 5.1. Difficulties and Actions Undertaken to Overcome Them

ECODIT faced and surmounted a number of challenges during project implementation. The most pertinent challenges and difficulties are described here:

#### Cost of Construction

The cost of construction material and workmanship increased dramatically during the course of the LMT project. Thanks to rigorously prepared tender documents including technical specifications and bill of quantities, and transparent tendering procedures, we were able to implement most of the construction activities outlined in ECODIT's proposal. In some cases, for cost-effectiveness, we grouped several activities into one tender.

#### Landmines & Unexploded Ordnances

Several regions in Lebanon are infested with landmines and unexploded ordnances. The war during the summer of 2006 aggravated the problem especially in southern Lebanon and near the proposed path of the trail. As a result, ECODIT had to develop an alternate route to avoid suspected landmine areas immediately south of Jezzine. We consulted the Lebanese Army National Demining Office and several international NGOs to make sure that the alternative trail was safe.

#### MOU with the Ministry of Tourism

USAID and the Ministry of Tourism signed a Memorandum of Understanding in May 2006 to facilitate and support the implementation of the ECODIT-LMT project. The MOU should have been endorsed by the Council of Ministers to come into effect; unfortunately this never happened because of the war in July 2006 and the political tension that followed. The Ministry of Tourism did however provide support to the project in several ways (e.g., displaying LMT literature at the MOT booths at international travel fairs).

#### Land Tenure / Title to Property

Land tenure in Lebanon can be very complicated, primarily because title to property (land and/or houses) can belong to multiple owners. During the process to select homes that would serve as guesthouses on the LMT, ECODIT had to abandon several candidate homes because the tenant (who would usually own some but not all of the shares) could not obtain the approval of remaining shareholders (either due to family disputes or because they live abroad). ECODIT also had to abandon two candidate locations to setup a campsite for similar reasons.

## 5.2. Sustainability

### LMT Association

As explained in Task 7, ECODIT provided technical and policy support to help setup and register the LMT Association. The Association is a Lebanese organization dedicated to protect and promote the LMT through partnership building with local community groups, national agencies and regional/international trail organizations. The LMTA has a dedicated website ([www.lebanontrail.org](http://www.lebanontrail.org)), mailbox (Hazmieh) and bank account (Bank Audi) and has started to receive donations and contributions from Lebanon and abroad.

### Building the Capacity of Local Communities

ECODIT design and conducted a number of training courses and programs to strengthen the ability of local service providers including:

- Volunteers engaged in trail maintenance
- Guesthouse owners who provide hospitality services in trail-side communities
- Local guides who offer guiding and trail interpretation skills to hikers

The LMT Association will continue to build local capacities through training to improve the experience for visitors of the LMT.

### Snow-Ball Effect

The following individuals and organizations have expressed interest in being connected to the LMT:

- The Municipality of Mazraet el Shouf
- The Association for the Protection of Jabal Moussa
- Alain Hardane (former Lebanese cross-country skiing champion) wants to develop the "Lebanon Snow Trail" in the region of Laqlouq and Aqoura
- George Ghostine (Owner of Hotel Bologna and former mayor) wishes to develop a loop that traverses the villages of Mrouj, Bologna, and Dhour el Shweir
- The Lebanese NGO Baldati wish to connect their trail project douroub el Batroun to the Lebanon Mountain Trail

These expressions of interest reflect a paradigm shift. Lebanese populations are increasingly aware of the importance of Lebanon's trail heritage and the need to conserve and showcase them to enhance recreational and educational activities.

## 6. Economic Impacts

The ECODIT-LMT project has planted the seed to effect positive change in the lives of rural populations in more than 70 trailside communities. The trail is attracting hundreds of visitors and groups from Lebanon and overseas who wish to walk parts of the trail and discover, or rediscover Lebanon and its fascinating legends, monuments and protected areas. The trail is also bringing together municipalities, micro-businesses, researchers, interns and other donor agencies. Two-and-half years after project inception, Lebanon has a new and world-class tourism destination; the Lebanon Mountain Trail.

### 6.1. Impact of the LMT Project on Local Communities

#### Visitor Numbers

Large numbers of hikers walked the LMT despite the prevailing political and security situation in the country in 2006-07. The LMT Project has only been able to track a fraction of these visitors due to the openness of the trail whereby people can walk the trail from any point. Based on the advice of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, ECODIT has been tracking those numbers in three categories:

Category	Total number of visitors From Inception to CA Expiry
Daytime visitors	9,500
Section Hikers # Visitor-Days	250 655
Thru-Hikers # Visitor-Days	4 104
Total Hikers	9,754
Total Daytime Visitors	10,259
Total Overnights	920

\* From December 13, 2005 through December 12, 2007 (ECODIT did not track visitor number during the 3-month No-Cost Extension, i.e., from December 13, 2007 through March 12, 2008)

Up until the end of 2007, ECODIT recorded more than 10,000 visitors on the trail including about 920 paid overnights in local guesthouses and alternative lodging facilities. The actual number of visitors is much larger if we take into consideration individuals and groups that walk the trail unassisted.

#### Festivals

The LMT has injected life into a dozen local festivals along its path, at a time when most sponsors were reluctant to support such activities (see list in Table 8). For example, on September 2, 2007, ECODIT in partnership with the Municipality of Maasser el Shouf, Al Shouf Cedar Society, and Souk el Tayeb organized one of the most well attended festivals of the 2007 summer season in Lebanon. More than 2,500 people converged from all over the country to eat, walk, buy and socialize. Fifty booths sold hot food and cottage produce. On average, each booth sold \$300 worth of produce – total value of sales in a single day: \$15,000. The festival also included guided tours to the LMT. Total number of visitors to the LMT inside the El Shouf Cedars reserve was 500 (all of whom paid a \$2 entrance fee).



## Baskinta Literary Trail

The Baskinta Literary Trail (BLT) combines hiking and cultural discovery for the first time in Lebanon. The BLT commemorates the lives of some of this country's most prominent writers and poets including Mikhail Naimy, Abdallah Ghanem and Amin Maalouf. The BLT is bringing together many individuals and is gradually reviving the cultural heritage of Baskinta (located only 42 km from Beirut). So far, more than 1,000 people (including students) have walked the BLT. This number is expected to rise significantly (at least 3-folds) in 2008 now that the trail has been sign-posted and the brochures printed. ECODIT has trained four individuals from Baskinta on BLT guiding; these four individuals (C. Akl, G. Hobeika, C. Hobeika and N. Tebeshrani) are being solicited by Lebanon's nature tour operators and have started to organize tours on their own as well.

## Nature Reserves

The LMT connects three nature reserves in Lebanon. From North to South, the trail is playing a unique role in highlighting the importance of Horsh Ehdén, Tannourine Cedars and Al Shouf Cedars nature reserves. As a result, more people are visiting the reserves thanks to the LMT. LMT brochures are available in all kiosks and entrances to the reserves. All LMT maps display the boundaries of the nature reserves. ECODIT signed MOUs with all three organizations responsible for managing the reserves; those MOUs will be handed over to the LMT Association to help it build lasting partnerships.

## Volunteers

The LMT Project mobilized 100s of volunteers to clear and blaze the trail. Many of these volunteers are experiencing for the first time the connection between the villages along the trail. Collectively, they contributed 1,000s of man-hours into trail construction and maintenance according to practices demonstrated by an expert team from the US Forest Service in November 2006. ECODIT also trained 37 volunteers in trail construction and maintenance. Many of those volunteers are passing on those newly acquired skills to other volunteers thereby increasing the pool of volunteers with trail management skills.

## 6.2. Impact of the LMT Project on Micro-Enterprises

### Nature Tour Operators (micro-enterprises)

At least 12 nature tour operators in Lebanon have benefited from the LMT project – see full list in Table 3. The LMT project helped these groups expand and market their services in several ways, in particular:

- By training selected staff in trail management and eco-guiding
- By promoting their products and services on the LMT website and guidebook
- By increasing the pool of prospective local guides that they may hire
- By offering other incentives such as the 90-day free guesthouse trial period

As a result of the LMT project, Lebanon's nature tour operators are now able to:

- offer new products (one-day and multiple-day programs on the LMT);
- draw new customers (locally and overseas);
- benefit from the growing pool of local guides and guesthouses (trained and refurbished by the LMT Project respectively).

### Guesthouses (family-run businesses)

ECODIT signed 11 agreements with home owners – that extend over a 3-year period - with a total cost share value of almost \$100,000. The capacity of each guesthouse ranges from 4 to 8 guests per night. The average price per night including bed and breakfast is approximately \$20/person. The owners have benefited directly from the LMT project:

- Their homes have been renovated and refurbished to serve as a guesthouse
- They have been trained in hospitality management
- Their guesthouse is being marketed on the LMT website and guidebook

As a result of the LMT project, 11 families have acquired a new and durable source of income. The majority of the guesthouses are operated by women.

### Local guides (entrepreneurs)

ECODIT has trained 53 local guides. They were carefully selected from dozens of villages all along the LMT. Thirty-nine (39) of them participated in follow-up events and test walks. These young individuals (men and women) are as a result of the training able to lead small and large groups on different sections of the LMT, charging up to \$35/day. They are also being solicited by nature tour operators or by hikers directly. As a result of the LMT project, these individuals have developed a new source of income. The LMT project has renewed or strengthened their resolve to stay in their villages and find work that will support their communities.

### Sports Outfitters

The LMT project is generating an increased demand for outdoor gear and equipment especially hiking boots, backpacks and cotton wear, as well as energy food. The following sports outfitters and industries have expressed interest in the LMT:

- La Maison du Ski (largest sports outfitter in the country)
- Timberland (leader in the manufacture of ecologically friendly cotton wear)
- General Mills Middle East (producer of Nature Valley Granola Bars)

## 6.3. Impact of the LMT Project on Lebanon's Image

### Press Coverage

The LMT Project has received outstanding press coverage. More than 115 appearances in newspapers, magazines, radio and TV stations have featured the LMT thereby projecting a positive image about Lebanon and its future (a selection of articles and radio transcripts are available on the LMT website). We have received a number of responses from international readers expressing their desire to visit Lebanon and walk the trail. Many have offered to support activities on the trail.

### World Wide Web

The LMT is on the Internet ([www.lebanontrail.org](http://www.lebanontrail.org)). The website ranking on leading search engines including Google and Yahoo is increasing every month (1,640 and 11,500 hits respectively on June 6, 2008) –the LMT is spreading globally.

### Promotional Material

After decades of promoting a limited number of tourist attractions, the LMT has opened a new door for tourists who wish to explore and experience Lebanon's heritage. ECODIT and USAID have received praise for the attractive layout and useful information contained in the LMT brochures (more than 20,000 copies distributed so far in three languages); the LMT Guidebook (8,000 printed and soon available in major bookstores in Lebanon); a complete set of sectional brochures (Qty 26 each printed in 6,000 copies) and maps (Qty 20 each printed in 1,000 copies).

## ANNEX A



### LIST OF COMMODITIES & ASSETS ACQUIRED BY THE LMT PROJECT

Item Description	Specifications	Qty	Acquisition Date	Vendor
Desk echo	160 x 80 cm	1	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Desk echo + fixed drawers	160 x 80 cm	4	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Desk echo + fixed drawers	140 x 80 cm	1	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Desk echo	120 x 80 cm	2	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Desk echo + fixed drawers	120 x 80 cm		03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Side desk echo	90 x 50 cm	6	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Movable drawer	2 drawers	1	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Round table	D-115cm	1	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Chair Golf	High back with arms & wheels	5	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Chair Arc 09	Low back with arms & wheels	2	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Chair S40	Without arms & wheels, yellow	18	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Chair S40	Without arms & wheels, blue	2	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Conference table	350 x 140cm	1	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Cabinet medium + top	140 x 90cm	2	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
Cabinet low + top	70 x 90cm	2	03-Feb-06	Ufficio
LCD projector DELL	2300 MP	1	08-Feb-06	SETS
Heater	On gas	1	16-Feb-06	BHV
Central Unit Panasonic	KXTE824BX	1	24-Feb-06	Ziade Phone sarl
Main telephone set Panasonic	KXT7735	1	24-Feb-06	Ziade Phone sarl
Telephone set Panasonic	KXT2373 - with speakers	7	24-Feb-06	Ziade Phone sarl
Fax machine Panasonic	KXFLB756 - laser	1	24-Feb-06	Ziade Phone sarl
Fridge LG	White, small, 5Ft	1	27-Feb-06	Khoury Home Appliances
Microwave Frigidaire	White, small, 30 L	1	27-Feb-06	Khoury Home Appliances
Flip chartstand	103 x 70cm	1	09-Mar-06	Librairie Halim
Computer desktop + UPS	PIV 3.0GB, 2 x 512MB DDR + Software	5	13-Mar-06	Microcity Est.
Printer network HP 2600N	Cobred, lazer	1	13-Mar-06	Microcity Est.
Printer deskjet	Cobred	1	13-Mar-06	Microcity Est.
Switch box for LAN	Office Connect dual speed 16p	1	31-Mar-06	Triple C
Filing cabinet	2 drawers	1	31-Mar-06	Ufficio
Chevrolet Trail Blazer LS	4x4, 2006 model	1	07-Apr-06	Impex Trading Co. sal
Flip chartstand	103 x 70cm	1	25-Apr-06	Librairie Halim
Photocopy machine Canon iR-2016	Black and white	1	28-Apr-06	Image Systems sal
Printer HP deskjet 5743	Deskjet, colored	4	11-May-06	Uniteg
Computer desktop	PIV 3.0GB, 1GB+512MB DDR+Software	1	17-May-06	Uniteg
Digital camera Canon EOS 300D	EF-S 18-55 + 1GB memory card	1	22-May-06	ECOTEL sal
Chevrolet Optra LS	Sedan 2006 model	1	25-May-06	Impex Trading Co. sal
UPS for the LAN	PCE 600VA	1	25-May-06	Hibri Computer Services
Horizontal blinds	Blue	1	01-Jun-06	Mohammad Baydoun
UPS batteries	2 batteries 60A	1	02-Jun-06	Hussein Khalife
Metal cabinet for maps	58 x 130 x 92cm; beige	1	30-Jun-06	EZ order
Wall screen for projection	175 x 175cm	1	30-Jun-06	EZ order
AC unit Gree	12,000 BTU	1	30-Jun-06	Richard ElNawar
Fire extinguisher	Portable, 9 kgs	2	05-Jul-06	Java Fire Protection sal

Item Description	Specifications	Qty	Acquisition Date	Vendor
Laptop Toshiba Satellite A105	With Microsoft licenses + arabic	2	16-Aug-06	Domtech sal
GPS uniteTrex Summit	With carrying case+PC cable+software	2	21-Aug-06	Azzi Sport Marine
Laptop Toshiba Satellite A100-233	With Microsoft licenses	4	11-Sep-06	Domtech sal
Digital camera Nkon coolpix S3	With Integral 512 MB and hostler	4	14-Sep-06	Gulbenk Trading Co.
Filing cabinet	4 drawers	1	18-Sep-06	Ufficio
Cellular phone Nokia 1600	With vehicle charger	2	22-Sep-06	Genadry Cellular Zone
Modem ParadyN	For LAN	1	15-Nov-06	Inconet Data Management
Talky Walky Motorola 6500R	A pair of two	1	20-Nov-06	Ziade Phone sarl
Wireless broadband router Linksys	Including delivery & installation	1	20-Nov-06	Hibri Computer Services
GPS uniteTrex Summit	With carrying case + PC cable	1	21-Dec-06	Azzi Sport Marine
External drive SimpleTech	Portable, 120GB	1	22-Jan-07	Best Buy
External drive Western Digital	500GB	1	22-Jan-07	Best Buy
AC unit LG	12,000 BTU	1	24-Jan-07	Khoury Home Appliances
GPS uniteTrex Summit	With carrying case	1	13-Feb-07	Azzi Sport Marine
Cabinet echo high	90 x 210 cm; Glass	1	28-May-07	Ufficio
Side desk echo + fixed drawers	120 x 60 cm	1	28-May-07	Ufficio
Digital voice recorder	Olympus	1	13-Jun-07	Darty
UPS unit	1500 VA, used for the central unit	1	22-Aug-07	Intratel sarl
HDSL Modem	Speedtouch	1	19-Nov-07	Ogero
Metal cabinet for sectional brochures	L=92cm; W=32cm; H=2.5m	1	12-Dec-07	Yousef El Zein
Metallic shelves		1	11-Mar-08	Pierre Der Gaspard
GPS uniteTrex Summit	With carrying case+PC cable	2	04-Apr-08	Azzi Sport Marine
Binding machine		1	11-Apr-08	Librairie Halim

## APPENDIX B

### PHOTOS OF LMT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

<b>QEMMAMINE GUESTHOUSE</b>			
<b>Village:</b> Qemmamine (North Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Hussein Abou Draa	
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT designed and refurbished the Qemmamine Guesthouse. Works included the construction of the staircase and a septic tank to contain wastewater; the installation of a roof-top solar water heater system; and bathroom renovation. Furniture was provided by another NGO as part of cost-sharing agreement with ECODIT and the Owner.			
<b>Value of Works</b> <u>Federal:</u> \$24,170 <u>Cost-Share:</u> \$8,135 <u>Total:</u> \$32,305			
<b>Contractor Name:</b> Haidar Abou Ghanem		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> December 2007	
<b>Photos before Works:</b>		<b>Photos After Works:</b>	
			

<b>TANNOURINE GUESTHOUSE</b>	
<b>Village:</b> Tannourine (North Lebanon)	<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Georges Sarkis
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT remodeled and refurbished the Tannourine Guesthouse. Works included refurbishing three bedrooms and two bathrooms and the installation of a roof-top solar water heater.	
<b>Value of Works</b>	<u>Federal:</u> \$21,279 <u>Cost-Share:</u> \$10,200 <u>Total:</u> \$31,479
<b>Contractor Name:</b> Nohra Abi Rizk	<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> October 2007
<b>Photos before Works:</b>	<b>Photos After Works:</b>
	

**BASKINTA GUESTHOUSE**

**Village:** Mtain (Mount Lebanon)

**Owner / Beneficiary:** Michelle El Khoury Hanra

**Description of Works:** ECODIT designed and remodeled the kitchen and the damp area of the upper floor using the services of a general construction contractor. Works included rehabilitating and refurbishing the kitchen and guestroom, building a new bathroom, and installing a safety hand-rail on the exterior stone stairs, as well as wooden/glazed windows.

**Value of Works**

Federal: \$29,551

Cost-Share: \$6,100

Total: \$35,651

**Contractor Name:** Nohra Abi Rizk





**Date of Completion of Works:** October 2007

**Photos *before* Works:**

**Photos *After* Works:**





<b>MTAIN GUESTHOUSE</b>			
<b>Village:</b> Mtain (Mount Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Layla and Naghiba El Kontar	
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT designed and remodeled the Mtain Guesthouse, which used to be a stable and part of an old palace (historic building). Works included obtaining a renovation permit from the Directorate General of Antiquities (DGA), restoring the vaulted ceiling, building a new kitchenette and bathroom, and refurbishing the reception/bedroom.			
<b>Value of Works</b>	Federal: \$32,450	Cost-Share: \$8,000	Total: \$40,450
<b>Contractor Name:</b> Nohra Abi Rizk		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> October 2007	
<b>Photos before Works:</b>		<b>Photos After Works:</b>	
			
			

## BAROUK GUESTHOUSE

**Village:** Barouk (South Mount Lebanon)

**Owner / Beneficiary:** Ziad El Boustani

**Description of Works:** ECODIT, designed, remodeled and refurbished the Barouk Guesthouse using the services of general construction contractor. Works included restoring the vaulted hall and annexes, stone paving two terraces, building a stone stairs, a new kitchen and bathroom, and the installation of a roof-top solar water heater system.

**Value of Works**

Federal: \$41,752

Cost-Share: \$15,200

Total: \$56,952

**Contractor Name:** COMBAT sarl (Raja El Batlouni)

**Date of Completion of Works:** October 2007

**Photos before Works:**

**Photos After Works:**



**BAADARAN GUESTHOUSE**

**Village:** Baadaran (South Mount Lebanon)

**Owner / Beneficiary:** Ziad Baz

**Description of Works:** ECODIT designed and refurbished the Baadaran guesthouse including one bedroom (6 beds), one bathroom, a kitchenette and a reception area using the services of general construction contractor. Works also included the installation of a roof-top solar water heater and the provision of furniture, fixtures and equipment for bathroom and kitchenette.

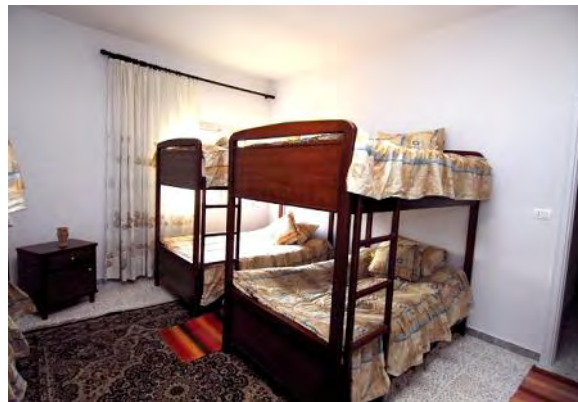
**Value of Works**      Federal: \$14,275      Cost-Share: \$8,600      Total: \$22,875

**Contractor Name:** COMBAT sarl (Raja Batlouni)

**Date of Completion of Works:** Oct 30, 2007

**Photos before Works:**

**Photos After Works:**



**NIHA GUESTHOUSE**

**Village:** Niha (South Mount Lebanon)

**Owner / Beneficiary:** Shafik Merchad

**Description of Works:** ECODIT designed and refurbished the Niha Guesthouse using the services of a general construction contractor. Works consisted in refurbishing two bedrooms, two bathrooms, one kitchen and reception area including all civil works and the installation of one roof-top solar water heater.

**Value of Works**

Federal: \$21, 834

Cost-Share: \$8,700

Total: \$30, 534



**Contractor Name:** Raja Batlouni



**Date of Completion of Works:** October 2007

**Photos before Works:**

**Photos After Works:**



<b>HASBAIYA GUESTHOUSE</b>			
<b>Village:</b> Hasbaiya (South Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> SOIL Association	
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT designed and refurbished the Hasbaiya Guesthouse. Works included remodeling two bedrooms (6 beds each), two bathrooms, one kitchen and a reception room, as well as the installation of a roof-top solar water heater.			
<b>Value of Works</b>	<u>Federal:</u> \$25,455	<u>Cost-Share:</u> \$10,700	<u>Total:</u> \$36,155
<b>Contractor Name:</b> ASSIA s.a.r.l.		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> December 2007	
<b>Photos before Works:</b>		<b>Photos After Works:</b>	
			

<b>RACHAIYA GUESTHOUSE</b>			
<b>Village:</b> Rachaiya (South Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Kamal El Saheli	
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT designed and refurbished two bedrooms, one bathroom and a reception room including all civil, mechanical and electrical and works as well as furniture provision.			
<b>Value of Works</b>	<u>Federal:</u> \$13,629	<u>Cost-Share:</u> \$10,610	<u>Total:</u> \$24,239
<b>Contractor Name:</b> ASSIA s.a.r.l.		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> December 2007	
<b>Photos before Works:</b>		<b>Photos After Works:</b>	
			

**AIN AN-NAASSA REST AREA IN HORSH EHDEN NATURE RESERVE**

**Village:** Ehden (North Lebanon)

**Owner / Beneficiary:**  
Horsh Ehden Nature Reserve Committee

**Description of Works:** Using the design that was submitted by the Ehden Reserve Association, ECODIT, redesign the place and tendered the works to a general contractor. Works included excavation and construction of two arched seats around an old tree and rerouting of the spring canal.

**Value of Works**      Federal: \$10,000      Cost-Share: \$5,300      Total: \$15,300

**Contractor Name:** NA

**Date of Completion of Works:** May 2008

**Photos before Works:**



**Photos After Works:**



**MAR LABA TOWN SQUARE IN HASROUN**

**Village:** Mtain (Mount Lebanon)

**Owner / Beneficiary:** Municipality of Hasroun

**Description of Works:** Using the services of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of the Holy Spirit Kaslik (USEK-FBA), ECODIT redesigned the sidewalks and pavements and tendered works to a general construction contractor. Works included storm water canals, water protection, curbstone, basalt cobblestone surfacing, the installation of light fixtures and landscaping.

**Value of Works**      Federal: \$92,000      Cost-Share: \$54,000      Total: \$142,000






**Contractor Name:** A.R.A.R sarl

**Date of Completion of Works:** January 2008

**Photos before Works:**





**Photos After Works:**








<b>ABDALLAH GHANEM CULTURAL PARK</b>			
<b>Village:</b> Baskinta (Mount Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Abdallah Ghanem Foundation	
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT organized a design competition for the Abdhallah Ghanem Cultural Park. ECODIT then tendered the construction of the park design (prepared by architect Nohra Abi Rizk) to SANABEL according to USAID rules and regulations for procurement. The overall park design consists of an open-air amphitheater. Works included earth excavation, the construction of a stone-cladded retaining wall, an upper and lower stone stairs, a guard house, a central stage, and painted tubular steel hand-railing as well as landscaping and the installation of light fixtures.			
<b>Value of Works</b>	<u>Federal:</u> \$122,000	<u>Cost-Share:</u> \$15,000	<u>Total:</u> \$137,000
<b>Contractor Name:</b> SANABEL		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> May 2008	
<b>Photos before Works:</b>		<b>Photos After Works:</b>	
			
			
			



<b>MTAIN HISTORIC TOWN SQUARE</b>			
<b>Village:</b> Mtain (Mount Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Municipality of Mtain & Mchikha	
<b>Description of Works:</b> Using the services of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of the Holy Spirit Kaslik (USEK-FBA), ECODIT redesigned the sidewalks and pavements and tendered works to a general construction contractor. Works included storm water canals, water protection, curbstone, stone pavement, basalt surfacing, light fixtures, and landscaping.			
<b>Value of Works</b>	<u>Federal:</u> \$129,000	<u>Cost-Share:</u> \$50,000	<u>Total:</u> \$179,000
<b>Contractor Name:</b> Shadi Abou Mosleh		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> May 15, 2007	
<b>Photos</b>	<i>Before &amp; During</i>	<i>After</i>	
			
			

<b>Project Name:</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upgrading the Barouk Entrance to the Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve</li> <li>2. Building a Toilet Facility at the Ain Zhalta Entrance to the Cedar Nature Reserve</li> </ol>			
<b>Village:</b> Barouk and Ain Zhalta (Mount Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Al Shouf Cedar Society	
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT designed and build a rest area near the Barouk entrance to the Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve as well as a new toilet facility at the Ain Zhalta entrance. The rest area included a stone-lined terrace wall and the provision of concrete (weather-resistant) benches.			
<b>Value of Works</b>	<u>Federal:</u> 14,000 \$	<u>Cost-Share:</u> 385 \$	<u>Total:</u> 14,385 \$
<b>Contractor Name:</b> Raja Mahmoud and Sleiman Elid		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> March 2008	
<b>Photos before Works:</b>		<b>Photos After Works:</b>	
			
			

<b>JBAA PICNIC AREA</b>			
<b>Village:</b> Jbaa (South Mount Lebanon)		<b>Owner / Beneficiary:</b> Municipality of Jbaa	
<b>Description of Works:</b> ECODIT designed the picnic area and the spring outlet using the services of a general construction contractor. Works also included building stone retaining walls, bench terracing, the installation of fixed benches and seats, several barbecue units and landscaping.			
<b>Value of Works</b>	<u>Federal:</u> \$15,930	<u>Cost-Share:</u> \$20,000	<u>Total:</u> \$35,930
<b>Contractor Name:</b> Roxanne		<b>Date of Completion of Works:</b> June 2007	
<b>Photos before &amp; during Works:</b>		<b>Photos After Works:</b>	
			
			
			

# ANNEX C

## LMT DISTRIBUTION POINTS

The following institutions and organizations received LMT sectional brochures (about 78,000 brochures in total) for distribution to the public:

### Section 1

- Municipality of Qbaiyat
- Municipality of Akkar el Atiq
- Council of Environment and Heritage (NGO)
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

### Section 2

- Municipality of Fnaydeq
- Municipality of Michmich
- Hussein Abou Draa Guesthouse in Qemmamine
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

### Section 3

- Hussein Abou Draa Guesthouse in Qemmamine
- Municipality of Kfar Bnine
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

### Section 4

- Municipality of Kfar Bnine
- Municipality of Bqaa Sefrine
- Municipality of Sir ed Danniye
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

### Section 5

- Municipality of Sir ed Danniye
- Municipality of Bqaa Sefrine
- Horsh Ehdén Nature Reserve
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

### Section 6

- Horsh Ehdén Nature Reserve
- St. Antonios Qozhaya monastery in Arbet Qozhaya
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

### Section 7

- Gibran Khalil Gibran museum
- Ecoclub house hostel in Bcharee
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

## Section 8

- Gibran Khalil Gibran museum in Becharre
- Municipality of Hasroun
- Ministry of Tourism (MOT) local office in Tripoli

## Section 9

- Municipality of Hasroun
- Municipality of Hadath el Jebbe
- Tannourine Cedar Reserve
- Georges Sarkis Guesthouse in Tannourine
- MOT in Tripoli

## Section 10

- Tannourine Cedar Reserve
- Georges Sarkis Guesthouse in Tannourine
- Shangrilla Hotel in Laqlouq
- Al Hashem Guesthouse in Aqoura

## Section 11

- Al Hashem Guesthouse in Aqoura
- La Reserve Afqa

## Section 12

- La Reserve Afqa
- Mount Smash Resort in Hrajel

## Section 13

- Pic Blanc in Hrajel
- Municipality and public library in Faqra / Kfar Dibiane
- Saydet El Niah Monastery in Bqaatouta
- Environmental Association in Beqaatat Kanaan
- Mar Semaan Monastery in Wadi el Karm
- Gite du Liban in Kfar Aqab
- La Maison du Ski
- Sports Experts
- Cycmo
- Intercontinental Hotel Mzar

## Section 14

- Gite du Liban in Kfar Aqab
- Maymouneh in Ain el Qabou
- Municipality of Baskinta
- Georges Aroyan Workshop
- Aroyan Guesthouse in Baskinta
- Krikor Bakery in Baskinta

## Section 15

- Municipality of Baskinta
- Georges Aroyan Workshop
- Aroyan Guesthouse in Baskinta
- Krikor Bakery in Baskinta

- Municipality of Mtain
- Al Kontar Guesthouse in Mtain
- Grand Hotel Bois de Bologne
- Dagher Sport Bologna

#### Section 16

- Municipality of Mtain
- Al Kontar Guesthouse in Mtain
- Municipality of Bzebdine
- Bzebdine Hidden Valley
- Nature Land Camp Site in Bzebdine
- Municipality of Qornayel
- Municipality of Falougha

#### Section 17

- Municipality of Falougha
- Municipality of Ain Dara
- Municipality of Ain Zhalta
- Al Shouf Cedar Reserve - Ain Zhalta Entrance
- Shouf Cedar Society Office

#### Section 18

- Municipality of Ain Zhalta
- Al Shouf Cedar Reserve - Ain Zhalta Entrance
- Ziad Boustani Guesthouse in Barouk
- Al Shouf Cedar Reserve – Barouk Entrance
- Shouf Cedar Society Office

#### Section 19

- Municipality of Ain Zhalta
- Ziad Boustani Guesthouse in Barouk
- Al Shouf Cedar Reserve – Barouk Entrance
- Municipality of Maasser el Shouf
- Auberge Saint Michel in Maasser el Shouf
- Al Shouf Cedar Reserve – Maasser Entrance
- Shouf Cedar Society Office

#### Section 20

- Municipality of Maasser el Shouf
- Auberge Saint Michel in Masser el Shouf
- Al Shouf Cedar Reserve – Maasser Entrance
- Salim Ashkar Guesthouse in Khreibet el Shouf
- Nazih Baz Guesthouse in Baadarane
- Municipality of Niha
- Chafic Merchad Guesthouse
- Shouf Cedar Society Office

#### Section 21

- Municipality of Niha
- Chafic Merchad Guesthouse
- Municipality of Jezzine

- Auberge Wehbe in Jezzine

#### Section 22

- Municipality of Jezzine
- Auberge Wehbe in Jezzine
- Municipality of Aitanit
- Rizk Motel Plaza in Aitanit

#### Section 23

- Municipality of Aitanit
- Litani River Authority
- Municipality of Kawkaba Bou Arab

#### Section 24

- Municipality of Kawkaba Bou Arab
- Municipality of Aqabet
- Municipality of Rachaiya
- Kamal El Saheli Guesthouse in Rachaiya

#### Section 25

- Municipality of Rachaiya
- Kamal El Saheli Guesthouse in Rachaiya
- Municipality of Ain Atta
- Municipality of Khalwet el Kfeir
- Municipality of Ain Qinia
- Municipality of Chebaa
- Water Mills Museum in Chebaa
- Municipality of Fardiss
- Municipality of Hasbaiya
- SOIL Guesthouse in Hasbaiya

#### Section 26

- Municipality of Hasbaiya
- SOIL Guesthouse in Hasbaiya
- Municipality of Ibl es Saqi
- Monah Guesthouse in Ibl es Saqi
- Municipality of Dibbine
- Dana Hotel in Dibbine
- Municipality of Marjaayoun